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or in horizontal bands around the body, containing the name and quality of the deceased, with the customary presentation or offerings for his soul to Osiris, a chapter from the ritual or some other funeral formula. In the hands of these figures are a hoe and a bag of seeds. Their arms are crossed in imitation of certain forms of Osiris, whose name and form the dead assumed, and the form of their beard indicates the return of the human soul, which once animated their body, to the deity from whom it emanated."—*Wilkinson*.

February 2d.

Vice President BRIDGES in the Chair.

Forty-four members present.

Dr. Leidy made some further general remarks upon the fossil mammalia obtained by Dr. Hayden from the Niobrara river (L'eau-qui-court), during the recent expedition of Lieut. G. K. Warren to explore the Black Hills of Nebraska. Dr. Hayden suspects the formation in which he discovered the fossils to be of pliocene age. The specimens belong to some twenty or more species of animals, all of which are distinct from those found in the miocene deposit of the Mauvaises Terres; and are also distinct from those of a subsequent age. The forms are, moreover, of more recent character than those of the Mauvaises Terres deposit. An interesting and remarkable fact, in connection with these remains, is that they indicate a fauna more nearly like the recent fauna of the old world, than of this country. Thus, among the remains, are those of a species of Rhinoceros, almost the same size, and having the same dental formula as the *R. indicus*. There are remains of several species of Horse, and of several new genera of ruminants; among which are those of a genus allied to the Musks, and also those of a genus closely allied to the Camel. There are, further, remains of a Porcupine, resembling the genus *Hystrix*, and those of a small species of Beaver. The collection likewise contains remains of three species of Wolf, the lower jaw of the feline genus *Pseudalurus*, fragments of several other carnivorous genera, and portions of the skeleton of the Mastodon and Elephant.

Dr. LeConte said that while he was recently in Honduras, he had examined the Mastodon bed at the village of Tambla, in one of the passes leading from the plain of Comayagua to the Pacific. He was satisfied of the identity of the remains with *M. giganteus*. He had found there a molar of Bos and two or three teeth of Equus.

On motion of Dr. Leidy, by special resolution, the thanks of the Academy were presented to Mrs. R. Pierpont, for the donation of a valuable collection of shells.

February 9th.

Dr. ISAAC HAYS in the Chair.

Thirty-three members present.

Dr. Leidy made some further general remarks upon the pliocene fossils from Nebraska; he exhibited many bones, among them the foot of a horse. He observed, that among all the mammalian remains brought by Dr. Hayden from the Niobrara river, none were more remarkable than those which he now exhibited. They belong to an equine animal which has the temporary teeth of *Anchitherium*, and the permanent teeth of *Equus*. In both these genera, the permanent and deciduous teeth are alike, but the new genus in early life is an *Anchitherium*, and later in life a true Horse.

He also exhibited the jaws, with the teeth, of a new genus allied to Oreodon, partaking, like this, of suiline and ruminant characters. The specimens were discovered by Dr. Hayden on the Niobrara, opposite Fort Laramie, and indicate a larger animal than any of the species of Oreodon described by him.

1858.]